

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/733,030

Examiner

Douglas Q. Tran

Applicant(s)

MOCHIZUKI, MAMORU

Art Unit

2624

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 9/28/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-8 and 10-18 renumbered as 1-16.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

DOUGLAS Q. TRAN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

*Tran*

*Allowable Subject Matter*

1. Claims 1, 3-8, 10-18 are allowed.

Claims 1, 8 and 15 are independent claims.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

**As to claims 1, 8 and 15**, the present invention from the application discloses a printing system, method comprises “when there occurs a print request to the port of the printer driver, which serves as an output path to the single printer or plurality of printers without setting information regarding actual destination of a print request, the host selects a printer from the single printer or plurality of printers through sequential execution, between the host and the printer on the network, of a retrieval request from the host, a retrieval response from the printer, a print request from the host, and a response to the print request from the printer”.

The closest prior art such as Kadota (US Patent No. 6,697,073 B1), which is recorded on the Examiner's Remark, discloses the CPU creates and registers a port name for each printer. The operating system requests the port monitor to transmit print data via the user's designated port; and Levine et al. (US Patent No. 6,020,973) discloses a print server for providing a plurality of connectivity modules, each connectivity module being associated with at least one of the plurality of printers, each connectivity module converting a function call and argument from the application layer to a form understandable by a digital printer associated with the connectivity module; and selecting a connectivity module associated with a digital printer desired to be used, and directing a function call from the application layer to a connectivity module associated with the desired printer.

Art Unit: 2625

However, either or the combination of the above prior art fails to anticipate or render the above underlined limitations obvious.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

***Examiner's Remark***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

Kadota (US Patent No. 6,697,073 B1) discloses the CPU creates a character string discriminating each printer from other printers, and creates and registers a port name for each printer. When a user operates the operating system to display printer properties, the CPU executes the processes to request the port monitor to list up all the port names, and executes the processes to display the port names in the display. The operating system requests the port monitor to transmit print data via the user's designated port.

Levine et al. (US Patent No. 6,020,973) discloses a print server for providing a plurality of connectivity modules, each connectivity module being associated with at least one of the plurality of printers, each connectivity module converting a function call and argument from the application layer to a form understandable by a digital printer associated with the connectivity module; and selecting a connectivity module associated with a digital printer desired to be used, and directing a function call from the application layer to a connectivity module associated with the desired printer.

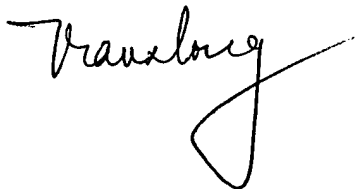
Art Unit: 2625

***Contact information***

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Douglas Q. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-7442 or E-mail address is douglas.tran@uspto.gov.

Dec. 05, 2005

**DOUGLAS Q. TRAN**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tran Douglas", with a large, stylized loop at the end.